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in the northern. It would have been a pleasing addition to this information had the number of scholars been stated, at least approximately, and also what they are taught.

The system of castes yet prevails among the Cingalese; but Mr. Holman is certainly in excess when he states their number to be twenty-one. The first place he assigns among them to the nobles, planters, and agriculturists; the second to the fishermen; and the third to those who hire themselves out as labourers, but who are required to serve the first class gratuitously. This arrangement excludes the Braminical class, or priesthood, and exhibits other marks of incorrectness. The order usually assigned to Cingalese castes is the royal, Braminical, agricultural, and labouring, the last, however, being extensively subdivided, whence, probably, Mr. Holman's multiplication of distinct castes.

The pearl-fisheries on the north-west coast of Ceylon have long been famous; and the feats of the Cingalese divers have been often quoted. It is well known, however, that the latter have been much exaggerated; and moreover, the fishermen are, for the most part, natives of the main land of India, not of Ceylon at all. They come in fleets at the proper seasons, and pay a heavy rent, or tribute, for permission to fish. They are, for the most part, unable to remain above two minutes at the bottom at one time; when the water is deep, not so long; and are in this respect much surpassed by the Arab fishermen in the Persian Gulf.

III.—*Ten Years in South Africa.* By Lieutenant J. W. D. Moodie, 21st Fuziliers. London, 1835. 8vo. pp. 700.

THERE is not so much local description in this work as might have been expected, and it is so interwoven with the personal narrative, that it is not easy to separate them. Existing circumstances, however, giving a peculiar interest at this moment to the details of the Cape of Good Hope geography, we shall endeavour to bring together what Mr. Moodie furnishes most to our purpose, with some little assistance from other quarters.

The general physical aspect of the southern face of the Cape territory is well known. Successive ranges of steep declivities, which from their outer side look like mountains, and are so called, though, in fact, they are merely steps by which a descent is made from the interior to the sea, extend in lines almost parallel to the coast, from west to east. They are separated from each other by wide and prolonged valleys, which are respectively sustained by them: and of these some portions are alternately quite barren or covered with a rich vegetation, according to the prevalence of dry or wet weather; while other portions are more uni-

formly adapted to the purposes of pasture, though also largely dependent for its quality on the nature of the season. The first are called Karroos; and as their exuberant fertility only lasts a short time, the repair of cattle to graze on them forms a sort of holiday with the Dutch farmers and their servants, as giving variety to their usually monotonous existence; and the expression of a "Karoo life" has come to be considered in the colony synonymous with whatever is frolicsome and merry-making, and relieved from wonted restrictions. The other class of plains are depicted in the following description by Mr. Moodie of the Lange Kloof:—

"I had now entered the Lange Kloof, or Long Valley, as it is called, which extends for more than a hundred miles between two parallel ranges of mountains, or rather mountains on one side and high grassy hills on the other. The back of that extensive chain of lofty mountains which lies behind and to the northward of Outeniqua Land and the village of George, forms the southern boundary of the Lange Kloof; but, from the great elevation of the valley, the mountains lose much of their height and grandeur, and are besides nearly destitute of wood on the northern side. This district is celebrated for its fertility, from the number of springs found everywhere to irrigate the otherwise dry soil. In itself, however, the soil does not appear to be particularly rich, being a greyish clay lying on a sub-stratum of clay-slate, and so shallow that the orange and other fruit-trees never attain the height and luxuriance of the trees in other parts of the colony. And I was much disappointed in its general appearance, which, notwithstanding the number of farm-houses and well-watered gardens, was rather bleak and forbidding, from the total absence of wood, and the uniformity in the shapes of the mountains. Throughout its whole extent the valley is so similar in its general character, that it hardly merits a particular description. Most of the farmers along the road are men of very considerable property, consisting of slaves and cattle; and their houses and out-buildings are large and extensive."—vol. ii. pp. 35, 36.

This description chiefly applies to the longitudinal valleys or tables between the ranges of declivities mentioned. The sides of these are, however, furrowed by almost innumerable water-courses, the channels by which occasional floods escape; and these again, by their union, form in many places even considerable rivers, transverse valleys being thus formed, the sides of which are frequently covered with wood, and constitute a highly rich and picturesque scenery. It may be said, at the same time, that, in general, the Cape territory has not been found to yield to cultivation what was expected from the singular beauty of its native Flora. Its indigenous plants are of species accommodated to the fierce extremes of drought and rain which characterise the climate;

whereas the grains and edible roots which have been introduced suffer under both. Agricultural returns have thus been singularly uncertain. Floods, drought, rust, mildew, locusts, have all by turns exercised the patience, and in many cases exhausted the resources, especially of the recent settlers; for here, as elsewhere, local experience is not without its power of providing against the utmost severity of loss.

The rivers which have been noticed are, for the most part, unfit for purposes of navigation. They are, alternately, so full as to overflow their banks, and so low as in many cases not even to run, but to be broken into chains of ponds. Thus constituted, it is one of their peculiarities, that the valleys in which they flow are extremely wide in proportion to the average size of their respective rivers; and the worst land in the colony is, for the most part, found on their flat margins (Moodie, vol. ii. p. 39.) (Descending from a primitive country, and traversing plains of which thin sandy loam lying on clay, and both on clay-slate, is the predominant character, their detritus brings with it little fertilizing principle.) The best land is on the sides of the hills near the rivers, the exhalations from these assisting to keep up a supply of moisture in their vicinity, even in the dryest seasons; and wherever the wood has been sufficiently cleared, in such situations, to admit of a due circulation of air, the returns have been both greater and more certain than in any other spots.

The frequent ravines which these rivers occasion, and their extreme steepness, very much impede communication along the line of country thus described. It is even not unusual, when heavy loads are to be transported any distance along the coast, to ascend the first range of hills with them, and convey them along the plain beyond, rather than encounter the difficulties of the lower road.—(Moodie, vol. ii. 28.) This circumstance is extremely against the growth of agricultural wealth; and its effects are aggravated by the want of good harbours, and the otherwise difficult navigation of the sea-coast. Mossel, Plettenberg, and Algoa Bays, are open to the S.E., and would thus be inaccessible altogether were it not for the excellent holding-ground in their respective anchorages, so that with good ground tackle vessels are moderately secure in them. But the mouth of the rivers are all more or less barred, the deepest, the Breede, having only thirteen feet water at low tide, nineteen at high spring; and the largest, the Great Fish, being inaccessible altogether, although within the bar the æstuary formed by its mouth is deep, spacious, and secure.—(Holman, vol. ii. 252.) The Knystna, Zwartkops, and Cowie rivers, each receive small craft; and hopes are entertained that the Buffalo will be found to admit a small steam-boat, which,

in such case, it is proposed to run between it and Port Elizabeth in Algoa Bay.* The heavy surf along the whole coast is another impediment to its easy navigation.

It is not surprising that under such circumstances the mere agricultural speculations, to which on their first arrival in 1820, and for some years afterwards, the settlers in Albany district were confined, yielded no adequate returns. But these were afterwards much improved by the trade with the Kafirs, the materials for which undoubtedly still exist, notwithstanding the recent war, and the animosities arising from it.

The greatest difficulty is in tracing such a boundary between the colonists and these their restless neighbours, as shall easily admit of peaceful communication, yet be such as to afford few facilities to marauders. And it is to be observed that the acquisition of such a frontier should be as much an object of desire to the Kafirs as the colonists—for with a little more or less suffering inflicted on both parties, the uncivilized must give way to the civilized, and better soon than late. The boundary in 1820 was the Great Fish River, the branches of which, however, are extensively wooded, and thus nothing was more easy than for a marauding force to advance to within six miles even of Graham's-town, the capital of the Albany district, without being discovered.† The country between the Fish River and the Keiskamma was therefore first set apart as a neutral ground, within which neither party should settle; but this arrangement proving equally ineffectual, and for the same reason—the prevalence of wood also in this district,—it is now proposed to take the line of the Great Kei to its source as the frontier, this being nearly quite bare, and consequently rendering a clandestine approach in force to the centre of the colony impossible. *Non nobis tantas componere lites*; yet we cannot but repeat our conviction that any arrangement will be humanity to the Kafirs themselves, which puts the power, and consequently the temptation, to molest the colonists out of their reach.

Within the previous neutral territory it is intended to settle the

* The Great Fish River has been entered by a ship's long-boat, and it is thought that at small expense it might be deepened so as at least to admit steam-vessels. The Knystna has a very deep but narrow entrance between rocks; and vessels of even 500 tons have entered it for stink wood, a species of African oak, in much esteem. Merchant vessels of 200 to 300 tons have been also built here. There can be no doubt that practice and enterprize will either improve all these harbours or enable their difficulties to be surmounted. The expressions in the text refer to existing or rather past circumstances exclusively.

† It was in the wooded hollows on the sides of this river that the Kafirs took up their first position, after ravaging the district of Albany in the late war; and so strong was their position, that it required the whole British force, to the number of 5000 men, to dislodge them. It was even the opinion of the most experienced officers after the action, that had they been well supplied with arms and ammunition, they would have here kept their ground.

Fingoes, a race of tributary Kafirs, whom the events of the late war have relieved from a severe bondage under the Amakosa, and of whom we subjoin, in a note, a detailed account sent to the Society by Captain Alexander.* This tract is described, in another

* When Major-General Sir Benjamin D'Urban crossed the Kei in the Kafir war of 1835, and entered Hintza's country, he found a numerous population of Fingoes living in a state of abject slavery under the Amakosa Kafirs;—they seemed very anxious to leave their oppressors, and as it was considered that they might become useful subjects of his Britannic Majesty, and be of great benefit to the community in the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, as hired servants, they were offered land between the Lower Keiskamma and Great Fish River, and were brought safely into the colony, to the number of 17,000 souls—thus constituting one of the most remarkable instances in history of the emancipation of a multitude of human beings from a most degraded state of bondage.

The Fingoes (or Wanderers) belong to various scattered tribes, and are darker and shorter than the Amakosa, but as active and even braver than the "Sons of Kahabi," six Fingoes in a fight being said to be able to cope with, and put to flight twelve Kafirs, if similarly armed. The men of the Fingoes have woolly hair—round noses—thickish lips, straight and muscular limbs, and average five feet eight inches in height. Their dress consists of a dressed ox-hide, worn with the hair inwards, rude sandals on their feet, and a skin sheath like the other tribes;—their ornaments are bead ear-rings, tufts of jackals' tails on their heads, bead necklaces, generally blue and white, brass rings on their arms, and a belt of small brass rings, strung on leather, round their waist. The women wear a small turban of skin or cloth, not to defend the head from the sun, but to enable them better to carry burdens, a petticoat of hide, a skin breast cover, ornamented with beads, and some of them the Kafir female kaross or mantle of hide, from which depends behind a flap covered with brass buttons; beneath the petticoat is worn a small triangular apron, ornamented with beads; they also wear bead necklaces and brass bracelets. The children are carried behind, wrapped in the kaross.

The Fingoes are in general good-natured people—the men labour in the fields as well as the women, in this respect unlike the Kafirs, the principal attention of whose men is devoted to the cattle. The huts of the Fingoes are hemispheres of boughs covered with grass—their food curdled milk and millet. In war they carry bundles of assagies (javelins) and a large oval shield of ox-hide, over which they can just look. At night in the field they get close together, and cover themselves with their shields when they sleep.

At present they dread fire-arms, but will soon get accustomed to them, and will make an excellent militia for the defence of the frontier, besides being otherwise useful.

The following are the names of persons among the Fingoes who held the rank of chiefs in Hintza's country:—1. Umslambisa of the Amaslubi; 2. Matomela of the Amakelidwani; 3. Jokwene of the Amazisi; 4. Umkwenkwezi of the Amabili; 5. Uewana of the Amagobizembi; 6. Uhliso of the Amasekunene; 7. Umkwali of the Abasawo; 8. Unomtshatsho of the Amantozake; 9. Umkuzangwe of the Abayimani.

1. Umslambisa resided, at the beginning of this year, at a place called Esixwonxweni; his people are the remains of a large tribe called Amahlubi. This name is compounded of the verb *khuba*, to strip or tear off, and *ama*, the plural prefix of people, and signifies tearers or strippers. During the period of this people's prosperity (according to information received from the Rev. Mr. Ayliffe, the Wesleyan missionary), they occupied a country north-east of Port Natal, on the river Umzinyaté, which falls into the river Tugela, but were attacked and dispersed by Matuwana, about ten years ago.

2. Matomela lived also at Esixwonxweni, with his people, the Amakelidwani. The country formerly occupied by them was high up the river Ebusali, which falls into Port Natal. They were first defeated by Bemgani, chief of the Amahlubi, and totally dispersed by Matuwana, about sixteen years since.

3. Jokwene resided near Butterworth, with his people named *Amazisi*, i. e. "the

work under our eye,—(Introductory Remarks to a History of the Kafir War, Graham's-town, 1835,) as a rich fertile district, singularly isolated by nature, being inclosed by very high mountains, besides the two considerable rivers which form its east and west boundary. The precise height of these mountains has not been ascertained; but in winter their summits are covered with snow; the passes across them are extremely difficult; and when in the centre of the district, the space inclosed by them looks small, though in fact considerable.

To return, however, within the old established colony. From the nature of circumstances its population is necessarily much distributed, and that of the towns is small, though the difficulties of communication naturally throw the internal trade into a few channels, and thus small towns have a considerable relative importance. The chief, connected with the southern districts, are Worcester, Zwelendani, George, Uitenhage, and Graham's-town. The two first are on the line of the Breede River, in one of the

people who bring." This tribe was scattered by the joint efforts of the Amahlubi and Amanene. The Amazisi formerly resided on the river Tugela, north-east of Port Natal.

4. Umkwakwezi resided also near Butterworth, and is the only chief who has embraced Christianity. His people, the Amabili, or "women's beasts," used to reside on the left bank of the Tugela, but were conquered by Matuwana, eighteen years since.

5. Ucwana resided latterly on the left bank of the Kei. The name of his people, Amagobizembi, means the "crooked axes." Formerly they resided on the river Inkunzi, or Bull River, which falls into the Tugela, north-east of Port Natal. They were destroyed, as a nation, by the Amahlubi, twenty years ago.

6. Uhliso was also at Butterworth, and professes to be a rain-maker; his people are called Amasekunene, or "those who are in the truth." They lived, in former times, on the Judaka or Mud River, which falls into the Tugela, north-east of Port Natal, and were destroyed by Matuwana, eighteen years ago.

7. Umkwali resided near Butterworth with his people, called the Abaswawo, or "the Coursers." Their former country was on the river Umzinkulu, north-west of Port Natal, but they were dispersed by Madigana, father of the present marauding chief, Neapai, about twenty years ago.

8. Unomtshatsho resided of late at Shixini, the cattle-place of Hintza; his people are called the Amantozake, or "the people who are his things." Formerly they dwelt on the river Inhlabatshani, (*i.e.* in the fine sand), which joins the sea, north-west of Natal. Chaka destroyed this people, twenty years ago.

9. Umkuzangwe resided at Etutuka, near Butterworth, in Hintza's country. His people are called Abayimani, or "the united people." Formerly they lived on the Umziyati river, which empties itself into the Tugela, north-east of Natal. Matuwana dispersed them, twenty-four years since.

Of the above scattered tribes are composed the 17,000 souls who were most benevolently rescued from slavery by Sir Benjamin D'Urban, and who, having fled from before their first destroyers, entered the country of the Amakosa Kafirs, to be their hewers of wood and drawers of water; and worse than this, for when a Kafir wanted a kaross or mantle, he waited till he saw a Fingo making one for himself, and when it was ready, seized it; if he wanted cows, he took the few head of cattle of the poor Fingoes, if they suited his fancy; and if he wanted a handmaid, he seized on a Fingo's daughter. On General D'Urban expressing his deep displeasure, when it was found that Hintza had commenced a massacre of the Fingoes, after they had declared that they would become subjects of Great Britain, the Amakosa king replied, "What is all this about, cannot I kill *my dogs* if I choose?"

longest settled and most fertile of the transverse valleys already mentioned. They are thus respectively the capitals of flourishing agricultural districts; and the greater depth of water at the mouth of the river Breede than is found in any of the other rivers along the coast (with the exception, perhaps, of the Knystna) though it has not, as yet, done much for Port Beaufort, the name given to this mouth, will probably be found a great benefit as soon as the navigation of the coast becomes familiar, an event which the wants of the more eastern districts will speedily bring about. George is the capital of the next district, and as yet one of the least flourishing in the colony. The country round it is beautiful and picturesque, but sandy and of inferior fertility; grain raised in it is of low quality: even the cattle and sheep are lean; and the butchers and farmers are supplied with fat cattle from the Lange Kloof, already described, and which is immediately behind the nearest range of mountains. The settlers are here, in consequence, poor, and the houses are chiefly built of turf, plastered over with a mixture of clay and cow-dung, and white-washed, the soil being so sandy that bricks for building can scarcely be procured. Water is, however, abundant in the district; from the lightness of the soil tillage is easy; and gardening, with the cultivation of fruit, is successful. The chief trade is in timber, and supplies for the rich farmers in the Lange Kloof.

The district of Uitenhage is pastoral and agricultural, lying chiefly between the Chamtoos and Bushmans rivers. In the neighbourhood of the town it is of extreme fertility, and has been known to yield from eighty to ninety returns of wheat; but it is here cropped under a system of artificial irrigation, the stimulating effect of which, without the aid, as already noticed, of a fertilizing detritus in the river, it is believed, is exhausting it. The town is regularly built, each house having behind it an allotment of garden-ground; and the water from a strong spring in the vicinity has been laid along the principal street, so that all are abundantly supplied with this essential article. The culture of fruit and vegetables is thus very successful; and the short distance, about eighteen miles, from Port Elizabeth, in Algoa Bay, the most frequented sea-port along the coast, gives a further impulse to improvement. A very considerable population is employed constantly in conducting waggons along the road between the two places; but from Uitenhage into the interior the trade is entirely through Graham's-town, and chiefly in the hands of travelling merchants, who proceed to the remotest distances, and even frequently pass the boundaries, to traffic with the native tribes. Their returns are skins, ivory, and curiosities.

Graham's-town is the capital of the frontier district of Albany, of which the history has been full of vicissitudes, though its pros-

pects are now, under lessons of experience of all kinds, likely to be for the future more stable. It is a rich, pastoral, and agricultural district, with fine woods, and sources of wealth of every kind, if its tranquillity, and the prudence of its inhabitants in not trusting too exclusively to their grain returns, can be secured.* Even under all the disadvantages with which it has had hitherto to contend, the capital, Graham's-town, is the second town in the colony; and in a few years, especially if the navigation of the coast is improved as may be hoped, it may rationally be expected to approach much nearer the first than it now does. Its population, when Mr. Moodie was there, was above 3500; consisting of the civil and military servants of Government, merchants, mechanics, European labourers, Hottentots, and a few slaves. There was a handsome church in the town, besides two or three dissenting meeting-houses; and both the other public buildings and the private houses indicated growing wealth and comfort. The degree in which the late Kafir war may have for the present checked or modified this rising prosperity, we have not before us the means of saying; but we can scarcely doubt, especially if compensation be made, as it ought, to the immediate sufferers, that this present scourge will eventually prove of advantage rather than disadvantage to the colony.

It is remarkable enough, considering the length of time during which the colony of the Cape of Good Hope has been occupied, with what tenacity the wild animals of the soil kept their ground amidst the settlements. Mr. Moodie's book is full of adventures with elephants, boars, rhinoceroses, hippopotami, leopards, antelopes, buffaloes, &c. The wild elephant was in his time common even as far south and west as Uitenhage and George Town: and in many of the retired quarters in the interior the *feræ naturæ* then still contested their old dominion with its new occupants. Thus in the division of the district of Uitenhage called the Onder Bosjeman's River, Mr. Moodie's servants dared not venture out at night; and the mechanics whom he engaged to come from a distance were scared even by day. Within the last few years, however, we are assured that they have disappeared very rapidly. Not an elephant is said now to exist west of Graham's-town; and the lesser game, as leopards, hyenas, and the like, must be sought to be found. Their cowardice is also found to augment with the diminution of their numbers.

* Specimens of wool from Saxon and Merino sheep, pastured in this district, have been sent home, and found equal to any from Australia. The removal of the Kafirs from the neighbourhood will very much facilitate and secure such speculations.